

Annex F: Policy and Program Analysis

This annex was updated by Department of Development and Environmental Services (DDES) for the 2009 Plan update.

VISION 2020 in 2004 is replaced with Vision 2040 in 2009.

VISION 2040

VISION 2040 is a regional strategy for accommodating the additional 1.7 million people and 1.2 million new jobs expected to be in the region by the year 2040.

VISION 2040 is an integrated, long-range vision for maintaining a healthy region – promoting the well-being of people and communities, economic vitality, and a healthy environment. It contains an environmental framework, a numeric regional growth strategy, six policy sections guided by overarching goals as well as implementation actions and measures to monitor progress.

The concept of people, prosperity, and planet provides a central theme for VISION 2040. This concept signals that our regional leaders use an approach that takes into account social, cultural, economic, and environmental benefits when making decisions

King County Region

Countywide Planning Policies

The Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) define the countywide vision and sets the framework for the County's and cities' comprehensive plans. The CPPs, adopted by the County and cities in 1992, are primarily goals that, if properly implemented, should improve the quality of life in King County during the next twenty years. The policies established an Urban Growth Area (UGA) within the western one-third of King County where most growth and development is targeted. The goals and policies include: reducing urban sprawl, protecting rural areas, providing affordable housing throughout the county and coordinating protection of environmentally sensitive areas. Many of these policies directly and indirectly influence hazard mitigation activities. The King County Benchmark Report, issued annually, provides a mechanism to monitor progress of the Countywide Planning Policies to determine if public policy and programs are making a difference. This information is also helpful in understanding trends

affecting hazard mitigation issues. King County Annual Growth Report – Benchmark Highlights.

King County (Unincorporated)

Municipalities, Districts, and Other Agencies King County Comprehensive Plan

King County's comprehensive land-use planning dates back to 1964, the year the first comprehensive plan under the State Growth Management Act (GMA) was adopted. In 1994, Comprehensive plans adopted in accordance with GMA must manage growth so that the majority of new development is directed to designated urban areas and away from rural areas. The GMA also requires jurisdictions to designate and protect critical areas and commercially significant forestry, agriculture, and mining areas. The GMA requires each Comprehensive Plan to adhere to a set of thirteen goals and to include the following elements: land use, housing, capital facilities, utilities, rural and transportation. King County's Comprehensive Plan applies only to unincorporated areas of the County.

Source: *2008 KC Comp Plan*

Land Use: Cities also develop their own comprehensive plans and development regulations. These plans must be consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies.

BUILDING CODES SUPPORT MITIGATION (rewritten for 2009)

The Building Services Division of the Department of Development and Environmental Services serves the citizens, homeowners and business of unincorporated King County with building permit services. Its mission is to promote public safety in accordance with the International Building Codes.

The Building Services Division promotes mitigation by ensuring that the design and construction of buildings and structures are in compliance with the building code as amended and adopted by King County. As stated in the International Building Code; "The purpose of this code is to establish the minimum requirements to safeguard the public health, safety and general welfare through structural strength, means of egress facilities, stability, sanitation, adequate light and ventilation, energy conservation, and safety to life and property from fire and other hazards attributed to the built environment and to provide safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations."

The Division also operates the Code Enforcement section who's mission is to ensure properties that have non-permitted structures or site code violations are mitigated by either obtaining a permit or removing the violation. This Section works with a wide variety and level of public hazard conditions, coordinating with

other agencies including; the Public Health - Seattle & King County, the King County Sheriff, and the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks.